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to be supplied to W. A. Ramsey, President Arkansas Branch, American School Peace League.

II. Open to any students in branches of the American School Peace League in normal schools or colleges of Arkansas.

Conditions.

1. Same as (1) in first offer.
2. Same as (2) in first offer, substituting *branch* for *school*, *member* for *student*, and the subject of the essay being "The Opportunity and Duty of the Schools in the International Peace Movement."
3. Same as in first offer.

The judges to decide the merits of the programs submitted in these two contests will be selected by Mrs. Fannie Fern Andrews, of Boston, Mass.

It is earnestly desired that many schools will enter this contest.

Very respectfully,

W. A. RAMSEY,
President Arkansas Branch, American
School Peace League.

Book Notice.

IN THE VANGUARD. By Katrina Trask. New York: The MacMillan Company. 148 pp.

Following close on the peace dramas of "The War God," by Zangwill, and "The Terrible Meek," by William Raun Kennedy, comes this stirring three-act play with modern American characters, though the setting is rather English.

Two young men, Jack and Philip, have enlisted for the war; they are heroes already in the eyes of the girls, and the village boys cheer with delight as the soldiers march away. The rector is the typical preacher of war glory and the duty of fighting for God and the right. Mr. Greart is a man of peace, a generous public benefactor, beloved by every one in the village. To him war and Christianity are irreconcilable. His argument with the rector and with Elsa, Philip's sweetheart, in scene III of the first act, is admirable and reveals the real spirit of the play. He pleads for heroism in common life, for the "heroes of the durable," as he terms them—"those who have sacrificed self to service—the scientists, the educators, the upbuilders of the nation, the reformers, those are the true heroes—those who give and spend themselves for the durable, the eternal forces of life."

Act II reveals a scene in camp in the enemy's country, with the degradation of manhood that always accompanies service in the field. Later, Philip finds himself beside a soldier who has been mortally wounded; he tries to relieve and aid, but the dying man refuses help from one of those who have caused his suffering. "Blow a man to pieces in the name of patriotism, and then try to patch the pieces together in the name of humanity!" A splendid argument against war develops as the two men talk. The enemy dies, and a new light dawns on Philip, as he exclaims: "He is my brother, and I have killed him."

In the last act Philip fights out the battle of conscience and decides to refuse the captaincy offered him by the general. He resigns and returns home cursed by the men and called a traitor. Every one there is against him, even his own father and mother, who are ashamed of what they deem his cowardice. Elsa has, however, had a change of mind also in his absence and welcomes him as her hero. "The new order is dawning upon the earth, and you are in the vanguard!" Mr. Greart, too, comes to his aid, and all turns out happily in the end. "War is evil, because it breaks the supreme law of the universe—the law of harmony"—is the closing sentiment of the play.

We recommend Mrs. Trask's little book as one of the most superb bits of peace literature that has appeared in recent years. We hope it may be read and played in thousands of schools throughout the land.

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